

## INSIDE TODAY

## WORLD NEWS

### SHIITE ALLIANCE



In this March 26, 2010 file photo, Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki speaks to the press in Baghdad, Iraq. Officials from Iraq's two largest Shiite electoral blocs announced Tuesday, May 4, 2010 that they have formed an alliance that gives them a strong chance of setting up the next government.

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## SPORTS NEWS

### THE PLAYERS



Tiger Woods hits his tee shot on the 18th hole during a practice round for The Players Championship golf tournament Tuesday, May 4, 2010, in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.

*Read more on Page A15*

**Price of a barrel of petroleum**

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In this photo from the social networking site Orkut.com, a man who was identified by neighbors in Connecticut as Faisal Shahzad, is shown. Shahzad was arrested at a New York airport on charges that he drove a bomb-laden SUV meant to cause a fireball in Times Square, federal authorities said. Shahzad, was taken into custody late Monday by FBI agents and New York Police Department detectives at Kennedy Airport while trying to board a flight to Dubai, according to U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder and other officials.

*Associated Press*

## Pakistan native admits to Times Square bomb plot

LARRY NEUMEISTER  
TOM HAYS

Associated Press Writers

NEW YORK (AP) — Seized from a plane about to fly to the Middle East, a Pakistan-born man admitted training to make bombs at a terrorism camp in his native land before he rigged a sport utility vehicle with a homemade device to explode in Times Square, authorities said Tuesday.

Faisal Shahzad, a naturalized U.S. citizen who recently spent five months in Pakistan, was arrested on terrorism and weapons of mass destruction charges for trying to blow up the crude gasoline-and-propane bomb amid tourists and theatergoers Saturday evening.

He was in custody after being hauled off a Dubai-bound plane at Kennedy Airport that he had been able to board Monday night despite being placed on the federal "no-fly" list.

*Continued on Page 3*

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## More victims feared as floodwaters recede



Airplanes are seen partially submerged in floodwater at the Cornelia Fort Airpark Tuesday, May 4, 2010, in Nashville, Tenn. Heavy weekend rain caused the Cumberland River, which winds through Nashville, to over flow its banks flooding part of downtown and other areas around the city.

*Associated Press*

CHRIS TALBOTT

Associated Press Writer

NASHVILLE, Tennessee (AP) — Rescuers feared even more bodies would emerge as muddy flood waters ebb from torrential weekend rains that swamped Nashville, much of Tennessee and two neighboring states, leaving at least 28 dead.

*Continued on Page 5*



Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad speaks during a press conference, during his visit to attend the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) conference at the United Nations headquarters Tuesday, May 4, 2010.

*Associated Press*

## Iran's president defiant in face of new sanctions

*Read more on Page 6*

**TODAY'S McCOMBO**

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# White House pushes to lift liability limit for Gulf spill



A slick of oil is seen in Chandeleur Sound, La., Tuesday, May 4, 2010.

Associated Press

By MATTHEW DALY  
and ERICA WERNER,  
Associated Press Writers

WASHINGTON — The White House is pushing to lift the limit on how much BP pays for the Gulf Coast oil spill.

Press Secretary Robert Gibbs said Tuesday the administration wants to work with Congress to change a

law that caps at \$75 million BP's liability for economic damages like lost wages or dwindling tourist dollars.

BP PLC is responsible for all cleanup costs under the Oil Pollution Act, but Gibbs said that other costs could easily top \$75 million.

Democratic Sen. Robert Menendez of New Jersey is co-sponsoring a measure that

would raise the liability limit to \$10 billion. Menendez also wants it to be made retroactive so it can apply to the huge spill that began after an oil rig exploded in the Gulf on April 20.

Gibbs said the administration supported Menendez's attempts to raise the limit retroactively. He also noted that if BP is found to have acted negligently or violated the law, the cap would not be in effect. The Oil Pollution Act was passed in 1990 in response to the Exxon Valdez spill.

Menendez said he was confident that the liability measure could be applied retroactively. He cited the 30-year-old Superfund law that has forced companies to pay for previously polluted hazardous waste sites.

"This is about making Big Oil responsible for its excesses," Menendez said.

"I don't trust Big Oil," added Sen. Frank Lautenberg, D-N.J., another one of the bill's co-sponsors.

BP CEO Tony Hayward declined to comment on the bill.

"We won't be entering into that legislative discussion," Hayward said at a news conference Tuesday.

Asked whether the company expected to spend money beyond the \$75 million limit, Hayward said the cap was largely irrelevant.

"It's got nothing to do with caps.

All legitimate claims ... will be honored," he said.

BP says on its website that it is committed to paying "all necessary and appropriate cleanup costs" as well as "legitimate and objectively verifiable claims for other loss and damage caused by the spill."

Hayward said the company

was also providing \$25 million block grants to Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida to help them respond to the incident.

The federal government also maintains an Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund supported by industry fees. It can make a total of \$1 billion in payouts per incident to individuals, businesses and governments.

Roughly 2.6 million or more gallons has spilled into the Gulf since the April 20 blast that sunk an oil rig and killed 11 workers.

President Barack Obama has said repeatedly that taxpayers will not be on the hook for the massive oil spill, which threatens the Gulf Coast. But prior to Tuesday the administration hadn't staked out a position on how the liability limit might be dealt with. □



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## TIME SQUARE

*Continued from Front Page*

Authorities had planned to arrest Shahzad, who had been under constant watch from mid-afternoon, at his Connecticut home, but lost track of him, two people familiar with the probe told The Associated Press. The people spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to talk publicly about the breach in surveillance.

Authorities shed little light on what might have motivated Shahzad — who since moving from Pakistan to Connecticut had acquired a master's degree in business administration and a house in the suburbs that subsequently was lost to foreclosure. He reportedly came from a background of privilege and wealth — the son of a retired air vice marshal.

A real estate broker who worked with Shahzad in 2004 said the bombing suspect had expressed a dislike for former President George W. Bush and his policy in Iraq.

Attorney General Eric Holder said Shahzad has been providing valuable information to investigators as they sought to determine the scope of the plot. A court hearing for him was canceled Tuesday in part because of his continuing cooperation.

"Based on what we know so far, it is clear that this was a terrorist plot aimed at murdering Americans in one of the busiest places in our country," Holder said.

Holder and other U.S. officials did not elaborate on whether they believed any international terrorist group was involved, or whether Shahzad, after his training, was acting on his own.

The FBI read Shahzad his constitutional rights after he provided information, and he continued to cooperate, FBI

Deputy Director John Pistole said.

Shahzad, 30, had been identified as the man who recently purchased the sport utility vehicle in cash and was added to the no-fly list early Monday afternoon as a result of breaking developments in the investigation, according to a law enforcement official, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss an ongoing investigation.

Counterterrorism officials send electronic notifications to airlines when watch lists are updated, but it is up to the airlines to check the web forum where the notifications are sent. If Emirates airlines had done this, the airline would have been able to flag Shahzad when he purchased his ticket that night. Because they didn't, law enforcement officials were not aware of his travel plans until they received the flight manifest 30 minutes before takeoff, the official said.

Customs and Border Protection officials, who were on the lookout for Shahzad since the early afternoon, recognized his name on the manifest and ordered the flight stopped so they could arrest him. The flight had not left the gate at that point, the official said.

Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano credited Customs officials with recognizing Shahzad's name on the manifest and stopping the flight. But she had little explanation for how he was able to board the plane with a last-minute ticket.

According to the criminal complaint filed in federal court in Manhattan, Shahzad confessed to buying the SUV, rigging it with a homemade bomb and driving it into Times Square. The complaint says he admitted to receiving bomb-making training in Waziristan, Pakistan, a region

Attorney General Eric Holder, right, accompanied by Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano, center, and New York Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly, during a news conference to update the attempted bombing in Times Square, Tuesday, May 4, 2010, at Justice Department in Washington.

*Associated Press*

where the Pakistani Taliban operates with near-impunity. The Pakistani Taliban has claimed responsibility for the bomb plot, but U.S. officials say there's no evidence to back that up.

The complaint charged Shahzad with trying to detonate a weapon of mass destruction, attempted car bombing and obstructing interstate and foreign commerce by trying to kill and maim U.S. citizens. The report of Shahzad's training raises the possibility the attack was a coordinated international effort, but authorities have not said whether they believe that to be the case.

In Pakistan, authorities said they had detained several people in connection with the bombing attempt, although the FBI said it had no confirmation that these arrests were relevant to the case. Reports also surfaced in Pakistan that Shahzad came from a wealthy family and was the son of a former high-ranking air force officer.

President Barack Obama said "hundreds of lives" may have been saved Saturday night by the quick action of ordinary citizens and law enforcement authorities who saw the smoking SUV — a 1993 Nissan Pathfinder — parked in Times Square.

"As Americans and as a nation, we will not be terrorized. We will not cower in fear. We will not be intimidated," Obama said. □



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# Gulf oil spill roils U.S. energy bill prospects



Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Energy and the Environment, Ed Markey, D-Mass., center, and House Energy and Commerce Investigations Subcommittee Chairman Bart Stupak, D-Mich., looking through door at left, emerge from a closed-door meeting with officials from Transocean, which owned the oil rig that exploded in the Gulf of Mexico, and with BP America, which was leasing the rig, at the Rayburn House Office Building on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, May 4, 2010.

*Associated Press*

**LAURIE KELLMAN  
MATTHEW DALY**

**Associated Press Writers**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congressional Democrats say the disastrous oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico adds urgency to the troubled energy reform bill working its way through the Senate. Misgivings among other lawmakers, however, leave the bill no clear path forward.

“Personally, I will have a very hard time ever voting for offshore drilling again,” Democratic Sen. Jay Rockefeller said Tuesday. “It’s too much unknown.”

With that, Rockefeller joined the ranks of Democrats lining up against an already-

troubled energy and climate bill heading to the Senate. Its very progress has depended on the addition of sweeteners to attract support from traditional opponents. For environmentalists, the bill would curb pollution-causing gases blamed for global climate change and crack down on oil companies. For the “Drill, Baby, Drill” types, there is permission to drill in new ocean areas near a half-dozen states, including Alaska and the Atlantic coast stretching from Delaware to Florida.

Still, recent accidents in the gulf and a West Virginia coal mine have intensified the political cost-benefit analysis facing Congress and the White House. Mining and drilling for energy can be risky and costly in human, economic and environmental terms. Lawmakers and lobbyists for environmentalists, energy companies, unions and utilities are assessing whether it is possible to balance those interests in an election year.

Congress’ Democratic leaders said the spreading disaster in the Gulf only adds urgency to passing energy and climate legislation.

“I don’t think this is something that will stop” the bill, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, the senior Democrat in the House of Representatives, told reporters Tuesday.

“I think that it should spur it on,” said he counterpart in the Senate, Majority Leader Harry Reid, said. “We have to take care of this issue.”

The bill’s Democratic

sponsor, Sen. John Kerry, agreed, saying for better or worse, offshore drilling is here to stay. “We’re not going stop drilling in America,” Kerry said as he left an afternoon briefing on the drilling disaster by administration officials.

Positions on the climate bill were shifting against its supporters. Two moderate Republican governors, California’s Arnold Schwarzenegger and Florida’s Charlie Crist, withdraw their support for expanded offshore drilling, which could hurt efforts to round up centrist bipartisan backing.

“You turn on the television and see this enormous disaster, you say to yourself, ‘Why would we want to take on that kind of risk?’” Schwarzenegger said. He previously had backed an expansion of drilling off his state’s coast.

Rockefeller was new among the ranks of Democrats refusing to vote for a bill that would expand offshore drilling. Others included New Jersey Sens. Robert Menendez and Frank Lautenberg, Nebraska’s Ben Nelson and Maryland’s Benjamin Cardin.

The group hardened their positions against BP on Tuesday, announcing a proposal to lift the company’s liability cap from \$75 million to \$10 billion, and make it retroactive.

Taken together, the Democratic defections put the energy and climate change bill, which was to have been disclosed last week, in peril. □

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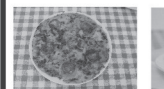
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## FLOODWATERS

*Continued from Front Page*

The Cumberland River that has submerged parts of Nashville's historic downtown was expected to start receding Tuesday after being swollen by flash floods in creeks that feed into it. Water submerged parts the Grand Ole Opry House, considered by many to be the heart of country music, and the nearby Opryland Hotel could be closed for up to six months.

The flash flooding caught many here by surprise, and efforts to warn residents to not drive on flooded streets were hampered by power outages.

As the water began to recede, bodies were recovered late Monday from homes, a yard and a wooded area outside a Nashville supermarket.

By Tuesday, the flash floods were blamed in the deaths of 17 people in Tennessee alone, including nine in Nashville. Authorities initially said 10 people were killed by floods in Nashville, but on Tuesday, they said one of those people died of natural causes.

Residents and authorities know they'll find widespread property damage in inundated areas, but dread even more devastating discoveries.

"Those in houses that have been flooded and some of those more remote areas, do we suspect we will find more people? Probably so," Nashville Fire Chief Kim Lawson said. "We certainly hope that it's not a large number."

Businesses along Nashville's riverfront lost electricity early Tuesday. Laurie Parker, a spokeswoman for Nashville Electric Service, said a main circuit failed before dawn, knocking out power to many downtown businesses, including the 33-story AT&T Building and a Hilton hotel.

The flooding also prompted election officials to delay the city's local primary, which had been set for Tuesday.

Andy Mason, the concierge at a high-rise building of condominiums, said he was been advising residents to leave the 330-unit building because power wasn't expected to be restored for three days.

Thousands of people fled rising water and hundreds were rescued, but bodies were recovered Monday from homes, a yard, even a wooded area outside a Nashville supermarket. By Monday night, the rapidly rising waters were blamed in the deaths of 18 people in Tennessee alone, including 10 in Nashville.

The weekend storms also killed six people in Mississippi and four in Kentucky, including one man whose truck ran off the road and into a flooded creek. One person was killed by a tornado in western Tennessee.

Floodwaters also edged into areas of downtown, damaging the Country Music Hall of Fame and LP Field where the Tennessee Titans play, though the Ryman Auditorium — the longtime former home of the Grand Ole Opry — appeared to be safe. It was not immediately known how much damage the Hall of Fame or LP Field received.

Damage estimates range into the tens of millions of dollars. Gov. Phil Bredesen declared 52 of Tennessee's 95 counties disaster areas after finishing an aerial tour from Nashville to western Tennessee during which he saw flooding so extensive that treetops looked like islands.

The severity of the storms caught everyone off guard. More than 13.5 inches of rainfall were recorded Saturday and Sunday, according to the National Weather Service, making for a new two-day record that doubled the previous mark.

Dramatic rescues continued into Monday as water crept into areas that had remained safe during weekend downpours.

Authorities and volunteers in fishing boats, an amphibious tour bus and a canoe scooped up about 500 trapped vacationers at the Wyndham Resort along the river near Opryland. Rescuers had to steer through a maze of underwater hazards, including submerged cars, some with tops barely visible above floodwaters the color of milk chocolate. □



A sign in River Front Park becomes visible once again as the waters of the Cumberland River slowly started to ebb across from LP Field, Tuesday, May 4, 2010, in Nashville, Tenn. The river and its tributaries had flooded parts of middle Tennessee after a record-breaking weekend storm dumped more than a foot of rain in two days, rapidly spilling water into homes, roads and some of Music City's best-known attractions.

*Associated Press*



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## Iran's president defiant in face of new sanctions

JOHN HEILPRIN

Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — After months of campaigning to avert new U.N. sanctions, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad summed up his case Tuesday and dismissed the threat of further economic penalties over his country's nuclear program.

"Experience has proven that sanctions cannot stop the Iranian nation," Ahmadinejad told reporters at a hotel across from U.N. headquarters, where a monthlong nuclear treaty conference was in its second day.

"While we do not welcome sanctions, we do not fear them either," he said. "It seems to us that the structure of the Security

Council is undemocratic and unjust, and is unable to bring about security. ... This Security Council will completely lose its legitimacy."

Despite Iran's defiance, major powers on the 15-nation United Nations Security Council appear resolved to seek further sanctions.

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei A. Ryabkov said Tuesday he was "reasonably optimistic" an agreement can be reached on a fourth round of sanctions.

"I do believe the talks are slowly moving forward. There's definitely some space to bridge over. But I wouldn't over-exaggerate the differences," Ryabkov said.

The Iranian president has

calibrated his globe-trotting since last year in an effort to undermine the pressure the U.S. and its allies are trying to build against Tehran to force it to suspend its uranium enrichment program, which Western powers allege is aimed at building atomic bombs.

In recent months he has paid visits to China and Russia, the two nations among the Security Council's five veto-wielding permanent members that have been reluctant to endorse further sanctions on Iran, and to rotating members such as Uganda and Brazil.

Now, Ahmadinejad — the sole head of state to attend the once-every-5-years Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty conference — argues any new



Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad arrives for a news conference, during his visit to attend the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) conference at the United Nations headquarters Tuesday, May 4, 2010.

Associated Press

sanctions would mean that U.S. President Barack Obama has given up on his campaign to engage Iran diplomatically. "We feel that the U.S. government will be damaged, more than us, by those sanctions," he said. "It's very clear that if the United States starts another sanctions (regime) against Iran, it means that it's the end of Mr. Obama's effort. It means Mr.

Obama's submission. It means no change will occur."

Ahmadinejad called the U.S. disclosures Monday about its previously secretive nuclear arsenal "a positive step forward," but one that still raises questions.

"It's no pride to possess 5,000 bombs," he said. "Now, how can you have the trust of a government that announces 5,000 bombs after 60 years?"

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# Iraq's Shiites unite to try to form new government

QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA

Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq's two largest Shiite electoral blocs announced Tuesday they have formed an alliance that gives them a strong chance of setting up the next government, though they have yet to work out the contentious question of who would become prime minister.

The coalition deal between Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's State of Law coalition and the conservative Shiite Iraqi National Alliance leaves them just four parliamentary seats shy of a ruling majority. The union could cement Shiite domination of Iraq's government and further alienate minority Sunnis who lost their positions of privilege with the fall of their patron Saddam Hussein in the 2003 U.S.-led invasion.

Such an outcome threatens to stir further violence at an especially fragile moment in Iraq as American troops prepare to withdraw. It could also ensure that neighboring Shiite power Iran maintains influence in Iraqi affairs.

The coalition deal was announced at a news conference, but the question of who would be prime minister could threaten to derail their plans to form a government.

"Despite the challenges and the risks, both coalitions have agreed to announce the formation of a single parliamentary bloc," said Abdul-Razaq al-Kazemi of the Iraqi National Alliance.

Al-Kazemi, who took no questions from reporters, was flanked by officials from State of Law and the movement of radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, whose followers make up the strongest group in the Iraqi National Alliance.

Iraq's close fought election on March 7 produced no clear winner, forcing extensive negotiations between the political factions and deepening divisions as the political debate has dragged on for almost two months.

Adding to the confusion are the steps al-Maliki has taken to challenge the election results, which showed his coalition with a two-seat deficit to the

Iraqiya coalition of former Prime Minister Ayad Allawi, a Shiite who won solid Sunni backing by campaigning for an end to sectarian politics.

Al-Maliki successfully demanded a recount of Baghdad votes, and a committee tasked with vetting candidates for ties to Saddam Hussein's regime has tried to bar many politicians on Allawi's electoral list.

The Shiite alliance came about because the Shiite parties were worried about Allawi's chances of forming a government and decided to outmaneuver him, said Joost Hiltermann from the International Crisis Group.

"The way to prevent Allawi from forming a government is to make sure he doesn't get a chance," he said.

Tuesday's news raises questions about what role the Sunnis, who widely backed Allawi, would have in any new government the Shiite alliance would be able to form. Neither State of Law nor the National Alliance have much more than token Sunni support.

Forming a government that excludes them would deepen Sunni disillusionment and sow further instability.

Sunni insurgent groups have demonstrated they remain capable of staging large-scale attacks involving multiple bombings in the heart of the capital despite government successes like the recent killing of al-Qaida in Iraq's two top leaders.

The alliance immediately drew the ire of Allawi's Iraqiya. A spokeswoman for the bloc, Maysoun al-Damlouji, warned that this indicated a return to sectarianism. She said the alliance was designed to undermine Iraqiya and, alluding to Iran, she said it was carrying out the will of a "neighboring country."

The Shiite alliance will likely try to lure Sunnis from Allawi's coalition in an attempt to boost their numbers and give their coalition at least some degree of legitimacy with the Sunni community, Hiltermann said. Even with Tuesday's deal, serious hurdles remain in the way of the new Shiite coalition.

Previous talks to create a pan-Shiite alliance failed because followers of al-Sadr have long been antagonistic to al-Maliki, who routed their Mahdi Army militia and jailed thousands of their supporters. The Sadrists are widely believed to object to any deal in which al-Maliki keeps the prime minister's chair, although they indicated Tuesday that they were keeping their options open. Al-Maliki was not at Tuesday's news conference.

Nassar al-Rubaie of the Sadrist bloc said nothing was being ruled out as to whom the alliance would back for the top job.

"The position of the prime



Men gather in a cafe in the Shiite stronghold of Sadr City to watch a televised press conference announcing the formation of a Shiite political alliance, in Baghdad, Iraq, Tuesday, May 4, 2010.

Associated Press

minister is the right of all blocs, which have the right to nominate their candidates. This position is not exclusive to any specific bloc," he said.



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# Mexico finds \$3.3M hidden in pads, TELEVI consoles

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexican customs inspectors found more than \$3.3 million in cash stuffed into mattress pads and television cabinets bound for Venezuela, authorities said Tuesday.

The Tax Authority said the cash was found Monday after gamma-ray scans showed unusual shapes inside a shipment of home furnishings at Mexico City's international airport. A sniffer dog confirmed something was odd about the shipment, it said.

Inspectors found layers of U.S. bills in denominations as low as \$20 wrapped in plastic and coated with a powder that smelled of sulfur, and then covered by foam and the backing of the mattress pads. There were also layers of bills in the walls of the cabinets. There was no immediate information on the owner of

the shipment. Drug cartels frequently ship large amounts of cash back to South America to pay for drugs.

The Tax Authority, which is responsible for customs, says inspections have been beefed up to protect national security. Also Tuesday, police in the central city of Cuernavaca said a female bodyguard for a top city police official was killed in an attack by gunmen late Monday. Assistant police director Jose Luis Aragon was unharmed.

No arrests had been made in the case.

The navy reported its forces freed 17 kidnapped people in a raid on two houses in the border city of Matamoros, in northern Tamaulipas state.

The navy said the kidnappers had called the victims' relatives — almost all in the United States — and demanded

money.

Acting on intelligence indicating people were being held at one of the homes, navy personnel raided the site and found a man who was apparently guarding the kidnap victims.

That raid led them to a second home, which was also apparently being used as a safe-house by the kidnapping gang.

A total of 17 people — 14 Mexicans, two Guatemalans and a Honduran — were freed. Drug gangs in northern Mexico frequently prey on migrants, kidnapping them to make their relatives pay ransom.

In the Pacific coast state of Guerrero, police reported Tuesday that the decapitated bodies of three men — one a local policeman — were found on a dirt road near the border



Navy sailors uncover bags allegedly containing cocaine, at the port in Salina Cruz, Mexico, Monday, May 3, 2010. A Mexican fishing boat and its five-member crew were captured while transporting nearly 5,300 pounds of cocaine on April 27 in international waters, based on information from U.S. officials. Authorities found 105 bales of cocaine in hidden compartments in the boat's fuel tanks in Salina Cruz, Oaxaca, Mexico, Monday May 3, 2010.

Associated Press

with Oaxaca state. The other two victims were identified as a local mason and a barber.

There was no immediate information on the motive in the crime. Federal prosecutors in Guerrero said that they had brought drug, organized crime and weapons charges against Rogaciano Alba, a

rural strongman who allegedly worked with both the Sinaloa and La Familia drug cartels.

The Attorney General's Office said Alba was caught with methamphetamine and an assault rifle in a car near the western city of Guadalajara in February. He has been held pending charges. □

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# Shell spilled nearly 14,000 tons of oil in Nigeria

JON GAMBRELL

Associated Press Writer

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP) — Royal Dutch Shell PLC spilled nearly 14,000 tons of crude oil into the creeks of the Niger Delta last year, the company has announced, blaming thieves and militants for the environmental damage.

The amount of oil spilled by Shell's Nigerian subsidiary was more than double what poured into the delta in 2008, and quadruple what was spilled in 2007 — highlighting the worsening situation the oil major faces in Nigeria.

The oil giant faces regular attacks by militants who have targeted pipelines, kidnapped petroleum company workers and fought government troops since 2006. Its chief executive officer has even hinted that the company can no longer depend on Nigeria as a profit-maker, despite its 50-year history in the country.

Shell blamed the majority of last year's spills on two incidents — one in which thieves damaged a wellhead at its Odidi field, and another where militants bombed the Trans Escravos pipeline. In all, some 13,900 tons spilled into the swamps, but Shell said it was able to recover nearly 10,000 tons of that.

In its annual environment report released Tuesday, Shell also quadrupled its original estimate of oil spilled during normal operations in 2008 to 8,800 tons, blaming an explosion in November of that year at its Iriama

field for the increase in its estimate.

The government is aware of the spills, and Shell has properly taken care of the damage and remains "involved in serious cleanup exercises," said Levi Ajonuma, a spokesman for the state-run Nigerian National Petroleum Corp.

Responding to the spills remains difficult, however, as Shell's workers are increasingly seen as lucrative targets for kidnapping by criminal gangs.

The company reported that 51 of its employees and contractors were kidnapped for ransom in 2009, compared with 11 in 2008.

"Nigeria, especially the Niger Delta, remains a very challenging place in which to operate," Shell CEO Peter Voser said in the report. "Security issues and sabotage are constant threats to our people, assets and the environment. But we are cautiously optimistic that conditions there are improving."

Still, Voser has said Shell can no longer depend on growing profits coming from Nigeria, a country of 150 million people that sees nearly all of its government operations funded by oil money.

That money funnels down into massive federal and state budgets that remain ripe from graft in a country consistently ranked as one of the most corrupt in the world.

Shell discovered the first oil play in the Niger Delta in 1956 and started pumping crude out of the swamps



In this Dec. 22, 2005 file photo, people evacuate their homes by boat, as they pass smoke and flames billowing from a burning oil pipeline belonging to the Shell Petroleum Development Company, across the Opobo Channel in Asagba Okwan Asarama, some 31 miles southwest of Port Harcourt, Nigeria. Royal Dutch Shell PLC announced Tuesday, May 4, 2010 it spilled nearly 14,000 tons of crude oil into the creeks of the Niger Delta last year. The company says attacks and vandalism at its pipelines caused what was a significant increase in the amount of spilled oil in the delta compared with in 2008.

Associated Press

two years later. It has since been the dominant oil company in the former British protectorate — and has been demonized both by environmentalists and by community activists who want more of Nigeria's oil wealth to flow back into the poverty-stricken delta. The delta itself, some 20,000 square miles (51,800 square kilometers) of wetlands in southern Nigeria, is home to about 150 species of fish and other wildlife that remain endangered by spills.

Shell also was accused in a U.S. lawsuit of playing a role in the 1995 executions of activist Ken Saro-Wiwa and other civilians by Nigeria's former military regime. Shell reached a \$15.5 million settlement to end the lawsuit in June, but acknowledged no wrongdoing. Since Saro-Wiwa's execution and Nigeria's return to democracy in 1999, the company has tried to burnish its image in the country. The environmental reports, started in 1997, are part of that effort. □





Kiefer Sutherland, star of the television series '24,' poses at the '24' Series Finale Party in Los Angeles, Friday, April 30, 2010.

(AP Photo/Chris Pizzello)

# Kiefer Sutherland and costars say goodbye to '24'

By MIKE CIDONI,  
AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES — Eight seasons in, "24" was 86'd. But cast and crew were still counting their blessings at the drama series' finale party.

By the time the last episode airs on May 24, there will have been nearly 200 hours of "24." To date, there have been 18 Emmy wins.

"I think over the course of the eight years, we've had 16 marriages and 30-something children have been born," said star Kiefer Sutherland, who portrays federal agent Jack Bauer on the series. "We were like a family. So, it's very hard to say goodbye."

Dozens of the show's cast and crew members joined Sutherland to celebrate in Hollywood Friday night. Among them was longtime show regular Mary Lynn Rajskub, who plays Bauer's go-to colleague, Chloe O'Brian.

She recalled her final day on the set. "When they said, 'Cut!,' I don't know what I was thinking," Rajskub said. "And then they said, 'This is Mary Lynn's series wrap.' And I just looked around. The crew was surrounding me. And I just kind of burst into tears."

Sad as the end may be, Sutherland said the time is right.

"It was a lot of different things. It's a very, very difficult show to write. And (executive producer) Howard Gordon . . . normally halfway through the season will say, 'I've got a great idea for next year.' And he just wasn't feeling it. And all his energy was focused on this season eight. He said, 'This is where I feel it should end, and we should be making the films.' And once he says that, you've got to go with him."

The "24" feature film, still in development, will stray from the show's format in at least one key way: It won't take 24 hours to tell its story of a day in the life of Jack Bauer.

"The film is a great opportunity for the writers, because it's the first time they won't be working in real time," Sutherland explained. "It will be a two-hour representation of a 24-hour day, so, all of a sudden, it's very feasible in 24 hours to get from England to Eastern Europe, so it opens up our horizons a great deal."

As for the finale? Rajskub dropped a few clues.

"Right now, we see Chloe having to come up with Jack and go after him, and go against his wishes, which she's never really done," Rajskub said. "She's being put in this position of power and having to grapple with these decisions that she's never had to do before, so she decides to take it on herself and go find him and confront him, and it's pretty explosive." □

# Coroner says Haim died of pneumonia complications

By ROBERT JABLON,  
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES — Actor Corey Haim died from pneumonia complicated by an enlarged heart, bad lungs and narrowed blood vessels, while drugs found in his system played no role in his death, the Los Angeles County coroner said Tuesday.

Haim, 38, died of natural causes from "community-acquired pneumonia" along with lung, heart and blood vessel problems, according to an autopsy report.

Low levels of eight drugs, including both prescription and over-the-counter medications, were found in his system along with marijuana, coroner's spokesman Craig Harvey said.

"But nothing was at a level that would have contributed to his death," Harvey said.

They included common cold and flu medications, such as ibuprofen and a cough-suppressant, he said.

Haim, who had struggled with drug problems throughout his life, died March 10 after collapsing in his mother's

apartment. Haim was ill with flulike symptoms before his death, and police said he was taking over-the-counter and prescription medications.

"The pneumonia is what killed him," Harvey said.

Mark Heaslip, the actor's agent, did not return a phone message seeking comment Tuesday.

California Attorney General Jerry Brown said in April that Haim employed "doctor shopping" to obtain 553 prescription pills in the two months before his death. Brown called Haim — the star of 1980s films such as "The Lost Boys" and "License to Drive" — a poster child for prescription drug abuse. He said Haim obtained powerful sedatives such as Valium and Xanax and painkillers such as Vicodin and Oxycontin.

However, no Oxycontin was found in his body, Harvey said. He noted that Haim's heart was abnormally large and factored in his death.

"His heart was 530 grams. The average normal heart weighs 300 grams," Harvey said.

Haim also had damaged lungs



FILE - This undated publicity image originally provided by A&E shows actor Corey Haim, who appeared in the A&E reality TV show 'The Two Coreys.'

(AP Photo/Courtesy AETN, L. Pief Weyman)

and arteriosclerosis of his coronary arteries, with some vessels 50-percent and even 75-percent blocked.

Harvey said it was unclear how long Haim had suffered from the medical problems or the pneumonia or whether earlier treatment might have saved him.

A message left with Brown's office was not immediately returned Tuesday. □

# Doctor: Bret Michaels released from hospital

Joseph Zabramski, chief of cerebrovascular surgery at the Barrow Neurological Institute at St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center, said he recommended that Michaels wait at least four to six weeks before resuming normal activity. He declined to say when Michaels could resume touring. Doctors will examine Michaels every two weeks until he's recovered.

"This produces a great deal of stress on the body," he said. "This is like being involved in an accident from inside."

Zabramski said Michaels is fully conscious and aware and talking fine, but he has back spasms and headaches when he tries to walk. He could continue getting back pain and headaches, but Zabramski

doesn't expect any other long-term effects. He wouldn't say when Michaels was released or whether he was sent home or to a rehabilitation facility. The 47-year-old contestant on "The Celebrity Apprentice" is receiving therapy and will probably continue to suffer from severe pain for another seven to 10 days as blood pooled under his brain dissolves. Michaels is a Type 1 diabetic, which limits the available options to ease discomfort.

Michaels' was admitted into the hospital April 22 after suffering a severe headache. He was diagnosed with a subarachnoid hemorrhage, which causes bleeding in the fluid-filled spaces around the base of the brain. □



FILE - In this April 9, 2008 file photo, Poison lead singer Bret Michaels poses for a portrait in the Hollywood area of Los Angeles.

(AP Photo/Gus Ruelas, file)

By JONATHAN J. COOPER,  
Associated Press Writer

PHOENIX — Poison frontman Bret Michaels has been released from a Phoenix hospital and is expected to make a full recovery after suffering a brain hemorrhage last month, his doctor said Tuesday. Dr.



# BUSINESS

## Aruba TODAY



A Nissan Infiniti G35 coupe, seen here in 2006. Japanese carmaker Nissan on Tuesday recalled more than 134,000 US cars sold under its luxury brand Infiniti amid fears that the vehicles' airbags may not deploy in a crash.

(AFP/File/Sam Yeh)

## Nissan recalls 134,000 cars over airbag flaw

by Andrew Beatty

WASHINGTON (AFP) – Japanese carmaker Nissan on Tuesday recalled more than 134,000 US cars sold under its luxury brand Infiniti amid fears that the vehicles' airbags may not deploy in a crash.

The company said it was recalling Infiniti G35 model sedans and coupes because of a wiring flaw that could cause the airbag to shut off. "This issue came to our attention through an internal investigation. We are not aware of any incidents or injuries," Colin Price, a company spokesman told AFP.

The problem affects US-sold G35 sedans made from 2005 to 2006 and coupes from 2005 to 2007.

The cars are also sold in Canada, Puerto Rico, Guam, South Korea, Taiwan and the Middle East.

"On a small percentage of the potentially affected vehicles, a harness connector issue could cause the passenger airbag to shut off," the company said in a statement.

"Infiniti will inspect and repair the passenger air bag harness to address this issue."

But Nissan USA hinted that more recalls could be on the way: "Infiniti will also address this issue in each individual market where these vehicles have been distributed."

It is just the latest in a string of recalls to hit the US auto market.

Nissan's fellow Japanese firm Toyota has been hardest hit. Toyota has been forced to recall around 10 million vehicles worldwide.

"Infiniti is committed to a high level of safety, customer service and satisfaction and is working with its dealers to promptly address this issue," the company said in a statement.

The firm said it had notified the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), a US government watchdog.

In a letter to the NHTSA on April 20 Nissan said 134,215 vehicles were affected.

Nissan said a wire harness connecting a belt tension and passenger detection sensors could be disrupted by movement caused by vehicle vibration or passengers getting in and out of the car. □

## Stocks slide as new doubts about Greek aid emerge

By TIM PARADIS,  
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK – Stocks plunged around the world Tuesday as fears spread that Europe's attempt to contain Greece's debt crisis would fail. The euro fell to its lowest point against the dollar in a year.

The Dow Jones industrial average lost 225 points, its biggest drop in three months. The slide erased a 143-point gain from Monday. The Dow and broader indexes each fell more than 2 percent. Meanwhile, Treasury prices rose on increased demand for safe investments.

Stocks have seesawed in the past week as European countries' efforts to agree on a bailout package for Greece proceeded in fits and starts. An agreement finally came together over the weekend, but its ballooning size of \$144 billion has investors worried that Europe would have an even tougher time assembling an aid package if a larger country such as Spain or Portugal were to get in trouble. Traders are concerned that problems in Greece and other countries could spill over to the rest of Europe and in turn, the U.S.

The market's plunge wasn't a surprise to some analysts who have warned for weeks that stocks were due for a retreat. After Monday's rally, the Standard & Poor's 500 index was up almost 14 percent from its 2010 low of 1,056.74, reached Feb. 8. Investors have spent the past three months largely shrugging off the problems in Europe and focusing instead on the continuing signs of improvement in the U.S. economy. The stock drop was a reminder that it doesn't take much to rattle investors who are on alert for anything that

could disrupt the economic recovery. The avalanche of selling could continue while investors await answers on Greece. But analysts said most drops are likely to be mild because buyers have been using pullbacks as opportunities to buy.

Tuesday's slump marked the fifth time in six days that the Dow rose or fell by triple digits. The market's moves are reminiscent of the fearsome swings in the fall of 2008 and early 2009 when investors were panicked over how bad the recession would get.

Scott Fullman, director of derivatives investment strategy for WJB Capital Group in New York, said sudden turns in the market are to be expected as traders wrestle with concerns that stocks are overheated.

"The market has kind of gotten itself into a volatile trading range," Fullman said.

Investors are worried that other cash-strapped European governments could also ask for emergency loans while the economy of the entire region is still recovering.

"It's not as though even the strongest economies of Europe are doing particularly well," Mike Shea, managing partner at Direct Access Partners LLC in New York, said.

"Why is a plumber in Germany going to bail out Greece or Portugal?" The Dow fell 225.06, or 2 percent, to 10,926.77, its lowest close since April 7.

The Dow was down as much as 283 points at its low of the day. The S&P 500 index fell 28.66, or 2.4 percent, to 1,173.60. The Nasdaq composite index fell 74.49, or 3 percent, to 2,424.25. The Nasdaq's more intense drop reflected the fact that it includes smaller companies seen as riskier investments than the big names in the



A Specialist holds his head as he works his post on the trading floor of the New York Stock Exchange Tuesday, May 4, 2010, in New York. Stocks plunged around the world Tuesday as fears spread that Europe's attempt to contain Greece's debt crisis would fail.

(AP Photo/David Karp)

Dow or S&P 500. Investors rushed to safer holdings like Treasuries, pushing interest rates sharply lower. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note fell to 3.61 percent from 3.69 percent late Monday.

The Chicago Board Options Exchange's Volatility Index, which is known as the market's fear gauge, soared 18 percent. That is a signal that more investors are betting on big drops in the market.

The euro again fell against the dollar as traders turned away from the currency used by 16 European Union countries including Greece. When investors start doubting a country's economic strength, they tend to sell its currency.

Anthony Chan, chief economist at J.P. Morgan Private Wealth Management in New York, said Greece's troubles aren't enough to spoil a global rebound but that investors are concerned that this small hole in the world economy will become bigger. □



# SPORTS

## Aruba TODAY

### Philly chief backs officer who Tasered fan

PATRICK WALTERS

Associated Press Writer

PHILADELPHIA (AP) —

City police are considering whether officers should get involved when unruly but nonthreatening fans sprint onto the field during sporting events, a review begun after a teenager was subdued with a Taser at a Phillies game.

A police officer used his stun gun Monday night on 17-year-old Steve Consalvi, who jumped onto the field and ran around in circles in the outfield.

Police Commissioner Charles Ramsey examined video of the arrest and felt the officer acted within department guidelines, which allow officers to use Tasers to arrest fleeing suspects, said police spokesman Lt. Frank Vanore. The department's internal affairs unit is investigating, Vanore said.

The department is now



A law enforcement officer chases down a fan that ran onto the field before the eighth inning of a baseball game between the Philadelphia Phillies and the St. Louis Cardinals, Monday, May 3, 2010, in Philadelphia. St. Louis won 6-3. The officer used a Taser gun to apprehend the fan on the field.

reviewing whether its officers should be on the field wrangling runaway fans who aren't threatening anyone, Vanore said.

"Should we be on the field at all? I think that's what's being looked at," Vanore said. "I'm not sure we should be chasing

people around the field."

Consalvi, a high school senior from Boyertown, leapt onto the field at the top of the eighth inning during Monday night's game against St. Louis. He ran around in the outfield, waving a white towel, and dodged two security officers.

Associated Press

The police officer chased him for about 30 seconds before the stun gun probe hit the teenager, who stumbled forward, slid face-first on the grass and stayed down for about 30 seconds before standing up and walking off the field.

"From the preliminary look at it, it appears that the officer was within the policy," said Vanore, adding that he did not know what may have transpired before the video started. "He was attempting to make an arrest and the male was attempting to flee." Police said the teen is charged with defiant trespass, disorderly conduct and resisting arrest.

Consalvi's mother, Amy Ziegler, apologized for his actions and said he regrets running onto the field.

"It was stupid. It was just absolutely stupid," she told WTXF-TV. □



San Francisco 49ers linebacker Patrick Willis speaks during a news conference at the NFL football team's headquarters in Santa Clara, Calif., Tuesday, May 4, 2010, after Willis agreed to a five-year extension with the 49ers.

Associated Press

### Willis gets 5-year contract extension from San Francisco

JANIE McCAULEY

AP Sports Writer

SANTA CLARA, California (AP) — All-Pro linebacker Patrick Willis signed a \$50 million, five-year contract extension with the 49ers on Tuesday that will take him through the 2016 season.

Willis has developed into an NFL star under Hall of Fame linebacker Mike Singletary, and the 49ers coach expects his top defender to become even better.

The contract signed by the standout middle linebacker includes \$29 million in guaranteed money. He is set to make \$10 million per season.

"Wow. It's been a long journey but it's not over yet. I feel like it's just beginning," Willis said during a news conference at team headquarters. "It means a lot. It shows they really wanted me here — and it shows what they want is what I want: to win."

Continued on Page 14



Chicago Blackhawks' Kris Versteeg, lower left, celebrates with Duncan Keith, right, and Andrew Ladd after scoring against the Vancouver Canucks during the third period of Game 2 of an NHL hockey Western Conference second-round playoff series Monday, May 3, 2010, in Chicago. The Blackhawks won 4-2.

Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Kris Versteeg scored go the go-ahead goal from the left circle with 1:30 left as the Chicago Blackhawks rallied to beat the Vancouver Canucks 4-2 on Monday to level the Western Conference semifinals at 1-1.

Patrick Kane added an empty-netter to seal the win with 47.7 seconds left. Patrick Sharp tied the game earlier in the third for Chicago with a short-handed goal.

Game 3 will be played Wednesday night in Vancouver.

### NHL Playoff

### Versteeg goal allows Blackhawks to tie series

Vancouver scored twice in the first 5:02 of the game. Mason Raymond had a goal, and Mikael Samuelsson added a power-play tally. Brent Seabrook brought the Blackhawks within a goal in the first.

Chicago's Antti Niemi finished with 24 saves. Roberto Luongo stopped 30 shots for Vancouver.

Bruins 3, Flyers 2

At Boston, Milan Lucic scored to break a third-period deadlock with 2:57 left as Boston edged Philadelphia again to take a 2-0 lead in the best-of-seven Eastern Conference semifinals.

Tuukka Rask made 24 saves for Boston.

Brian Boucher stopped 24 shots for the Flyers, who will host Game 3 on Wednesday night in Philadelphia.

Miroslav Satan had a goal and two assists for Boston, and Johnny Boychuk also scored for the Bruins, who won Game 1 in overtime on Marc Savard's goal.

Danny Briere scored for the Flyers, and assisted on Mike Richards' goal for his fourth straight multiple-point game of the playoffs.

The Bruins have won seven in a row at home. They won just three of their last 17 in Boston during the regular season after the New Year's Day Winter Classic against the Flyers at Fenway Park. □



# Williamsses advance in Rome

ALESSANDRA RIZZO

Associated Press Writer

ROME (AP) — Serena and Venus Williams ended lengthy breaks for knee problems with straight-sets victories over Swiss players in their opening matches at the Italian Open on Tuesday.

Defending champion Dinara Safina, recovered from a back injury, lost her opener against Alexandra Dulgheru of Romania 6-4, 6-7 (5), 6-1. Top-ranked Serena defeated Timea Bacsinszky 7-6 (2), 6-1 in her first match since winning the Australian Open more than three months ago. No. 4-ranked Venus, taking to the center court at the Foro Italico just before her sister, handled veteran Patty Schnyder 6-2, 6-2.

Serena was down 4-1 and saved three set points at 5-4 before going to a tiebreaker against Bacsinszky.

After dominating the breaker, Serena ran off the next four

games to secure the match.

Serena said she "felt good" in her first match since January and that, after falling behind, she needed to pick up her game and get her rhythm back.

"It's a start," said the 28-year-old American.

Venus had an easier time against Schnyder, a lefty who had defeated Serena in Rome last year.

Venus was always in control of the match, breaking the Swiss player six times.

Venus had been sidelined since losing the Key Biscayne final a month ago.

"I think it was a pretty good performance.

I felt good on court," Venus said. "She probably likes clay with her type of game and I was able to execute pretty well out there on the court."

The sisters, former Rome champions, are preparing for the French Open, which begins on May 23.

The third-seeded Safina

struggled for 2 hours, 40 minutes with her opponent and her own erratic game.

She recovered from 4-0 behind to level at 4-4 but went on to lose the next two games and the set to Dulgheru. After taking the second set in a tiebreaker, Safina had a disastrous third set, firing mistakes from both sides of the clay court.

Finding herself down 5-0, she twice smashed her racket in frustration. She sent a forehand wide to give the match to Dulgheru, who hadn't beaten anyone in the top 30 until now.

"In a second I was 5-0 after winning the second set," Safina said.

"I think the only good thing about this match was that my back didn't create any problems."

A recent No. 1, Safina retired from the Australian Open



Venus Williams of the United States reacts after winning a point to Switzerland's Patty Schnyder during the Italian Open tennis tournament, in Rome, Tuesday, May 4, 2010. Williams won 6-2, 6-2.

Associated Press.

in January with a lower back injury, and in her first tournament back — last week's Porsche Grand Prix — she lost in the quarterfinals. In other results, two-time former champion Jelena Jankovic defeated Bethanie

Mattek-Sands of the United States 6-3, 3-6, 6-1, eighth-seeded Agnieszka Radwanska beat Roberta Vinci of Italy 6-1, 6-0, and Shahar Peer of Israel came from behind to beat Polona Hercog of Slovenia 2-6, 7-5, 6-3. □



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NBA Playoffs

# Celtics square series 1-1, Suns win opener



Cleveland Cavaliers' Mo Williams, right, bats the ball away from Boston Celtics' Rajon Rondo (9) in the first quarter of Game 2 in the second round of an NBA basketball playoff series Monday, May 3, 2010, in Cleveland.

Associated Press

CLEVELAND (AP) — The Boston Celtics responded to hasty dismissals of their NBA playoff chances by beating the Cleveland Cavaliers 104-86 on Monday to square their second-round series at a game apiece. Rajon Rondo tied a team playoff record with 19 assists, Ray Allen scored 22 points

and the Celtics showed they're still very dangerous despite their advancing years. Having blown an 11-point lead in the third quarter of Game 1, the Celtics almost squandered a much bigger one Monday. They led 91-66 with 9:08 left, but the Cavs scored 15 straight and pulled within 93-83 with 3:13 left.

Boston, though, closed with an 11-3 spurt to level the series ahead of hosting Game 3 on Friday.

LeBron James scored 24 and Antawn Jamison 16 for Cleveland, outscored 31-12 in the third.

Two years removed from their 17th NBA title, the Celtics were given little chance of getting past James and the top-seeded Cavs. Despite beating Miami in the first round, Boston was thought to be too old, too slow and too reliant on the aging Big Three of Allen, Kevin Garnett and Paul Pierce.

But the trio combined for 54 points with Rondo setting them up with passes from impossible angles. Rondo matched the club's postseason record for assists set by Hall of Famer Bob Cousy.

Suns 111, Spurs 102

In Phoenix, the hosts fought off third and fourth-quarter comebacks to beat San Antonio in the series opener.

After resting his sore hip for three days, Steve Nash had 33 points and 10 assists for the Suns. Jason Richardson scored 27 and Amare Stoudemire had 23 points and 13 rebounds. Manu Ginobili, tape across his broken nose, led San Antonio with 27, Tony Parker had 26 and Tim Duncan 20.

The Spurs had won four straight Game 1s against the Suns, two of them in Phoenix. Both of those times, in 2005 and 2007, the Spurs went on to win the NBA title.

In the second half, the situation seemed ripe for another of those San Antonio daggers to the Suns' heart.

Twice San Antonio rallied from 14 back, with a 12-0 run in the third quarter and a mighty 13-0 outburst that sliced Phoenix's lead to 94-93 with 4:26 to go in the game.

Stoudemire sank two free throws, then after the Spurs twice missed 3-pointers, Grant Hill made two from the line to put the Suns ahead 98-93.

Parker's 19-footer cut it to 98-95 with 3:38 left, then Richardson brought the house down with a 3-pointer to make it 103-95 with 1:23 left. After Parker's two free throws cut it to 103-97, Grant Hill made a 13-foot jumper with 51 seconds left, and the Suns put it away by making six of eight free throws from there.

The Spurs had to rely on their veteran big three, without much help, to stay in the game. George Hill managed just nine points on 2-of-9 shooting and struggled defensively. Richard Jefferson had five points and three rebounds in 33 minutes.

## WILLIS

Continued from Page 12

This is another big offseason splash by new San Francisco personnel chief Trent Baalke, who took charge after general manager Scot McCloughan's abrupt departure in March. The team's lead negotiator, Paraag Marathe, worked with Willis' agent, Ben Dogra, over the recent months to get this done. Willis had two years left on his contract, too.

Locking up Willis for the long haul makes sure the 49ers keep their dominant defensive leader after they bolstered their offense in the draft with two linemen picked 11th and 17th overall — Rutgers' Anthony Davis and Mike Iupati out of Idaho.

"The most important message management sent today is for those guys that go out and perform, we're going to take care of our guys, and Pat is a tremendous example of that," Singletary said. "It's a great day for the 49er organization. Our management could see the value, our ownership could see the value, in a young man like Patrick Willis, who embodies everything, on the field, off the field."

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# Tiger Woods trying to hit his stride at TPC

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Florida (AP) — The 18th hole on the TPC Sawgrass is not nearly as daunting without wind, which was the case on a muggy Tuesday morning when Tiger Woods set up over the tee shot with a 3-wood in hand. The ball never had a chance to stay dry. It started down the left side with a severe hook and splashed down some 20 yards to the left of the water's edge. With a mild curse under his breath, Woods asked his caddie for another ball. It was his fifth ball in the water during nine holes of practice at The Players Championship.

He lost two in the water on the front nine the day before.

There have been flashes of brilliance, as always, but far more shots that hardly resemble golf from the world's best player. "It's just a matter of ... getting my mind where it needs to be," Woods said. "And certainly, I've made a lot of adjustments in my life, and I've gone through a lot — a lot. Just trying to make sure I get everything organized so I can play." Woods is capable of making some form of history at just about any golf tournament, and The Players Championship is no exception. Only now, the question is whether Woods will miss the cut in consecutive tournaments for the first time in his career.



Tiger Woods, right, and caddie Steve Williams talk about hole placement on the 16th green during a practice round for The Players Championship golf tournament Tuesday, May 4, 2010, in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.

He didn't just miss the cut last week at Quail Hollow, he missed it by a mile. With a 79 in the second round — his second-highest score in his career — Woods posted his highest 36-hole total (153) in 14 years on the PGA Tour.

Two days of practice this week did little to change the notion that his game — not to mention his head — is not in a good spot.

After three days of rampant speculation that he would ditch his swing coach, Woods said that nothing has changed with Hank Haney, who was not at Sawgrass. Haney rarely goes to tournaments outside the majors.

"I'm still working with him, yeah," Woods said.

How did he tie for fourth at Augusta National in his first tournament in five months, then miss the cut by eight shots in his next start?

Woods has hit into the trees even during good times. The surprise was the mental mistakes he made, whether it was failing to leave a chip shot below the hole, or powering putts when he should know how fast the green is running. Woods said it's getting better, perhaps because "it couldn't get any worse."

Physical or mental?

"All of the above," he said.

"Didn't hit the ball very good,

didn't think myself around the golf course very well, and didn't putt well, didn't chip well. I teed up the ball well. I didn't have any balls fall off tees. It just kind of got worse from there."

The Players Stadium Course is not much of a tonic.

While he won The Players Championship in 2001, this is the only tournament where Woods has finished out of the top 20 at least five times. A year ago, he was in the final group, five shots behind, and was out of hunt at the turn. He wound up eighth.

Adding to the memories is that this is the second time Woods has come to Sawgrass this

year. The other was on Feb. 19 to make a public apology to family and friends for his serial infidelity. He never looked more uncomfortable that day in the Sunset Room of the clubhouse for a 13½-minute statement that was televised worldwide.

Emotionally, he compared the depths of his emotions to four years ago, when his father died after a long battle with cancer. Woods took nine weeks off, then returned to the U.S. Open and missed the cut for the first time in a major.

Among the differences: After missing the cut, Woods didn't finish worse than second in a stroke-play tournament for the next seven months. It's hard to envision such a performance now, not with seven balls in the water over his last 18 holes, even if it is just practice.

And if he's not feeling the pressure from within, there suddenly is an outside force — Masters champion Phil Mickelson.

For the first time since the 1997 Masters that Woods won by a record 12 shots, he is no longer the outright favorite by British bookmaker William Hills. Woods and Mickelson are joint favorites at 7-to-1.

Mickelson has a chance for the first time in his career to rise to No. 1 in the world if he wins The Players Championship, which he did in 2007, and Woods finishes out of the top five. □

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# SPORTS

## Aruba TODAY

### AL Roundup

## Blue Jays' Cecil flirts with perfect game in win

CLEVELAND (AP) — Brett Cecil took a perfect game into the seventh inning for the Toronto Blue Jays before settling for a 5-1 victory over the Cleveland Indians on Monday.

The left-hander allowed one hit over eight innings, striking out a career-high 10.

Cecil (2-1) lost the perfect game when he walked Grady Sizemore with one out in the seventh. He then walked Choo Shin-soo but came back to strike out Austin Kearns before Jhonny Peralta lined a 2-2 pitch to left field, scoring Sizemore to get Cleveland within 4-1.

Kevin Gregg gave up a one-out single to Sizemore in the ninth. He walked Kearns with two outs, then fired a called third strike past Peralta on a full count to complete the two-hitter.

Jose Bautista's two-run homer put Toronto ahead in the second. Travis Snider hit his fourth of the year in the fourth and John Buck connected for his fourth in the eighth to make it 5-1.

### Red Sox 17, Angels 8

At Boston, Dustin Pedroia's three-run homer capped Boston's seven-run sixth inning in a win over Los Angeles.

Bill Hall and Adrian Beltre each hit their first homers in a Red Sox uniform, both two-run shots, and Kevin Youkilis had a solo blast.

Boston snapped a three-game losing streak after getting swept by Baltimore over the weekend.

Clay Buchholz (3-2) gave up four runs and eight hits in 5 2-3 innings.

The Red Sox built a 5-0 lead with three runs in the second and two in the third off Joe Saunders (1-5).

Mike Lowell went 4 for 4



Toronto Blue Jays starting pitcher Brett Cecil, left is congratulated by center fielder Vernon Wells after the Blue Jays beat the Cleveland Indians 5-1 in a baseball game on Monday, May 3, 2010, in Cleveland. Cecil lost a perfect game in the seventh inning, and left the game after the eighth.

Associated Press

### NL Roundup

## Garcia steers Cards over Phillies



St. Louis Cardinals' Jaime Garcia pitches in the first inning of a baseball game against the Philadelphia Phillies, Monday, May 3, 2010, in Philadelphia. St. Louis won 6-3.

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — St. Louis pitcher Jaime Garcia allowed one run in six innings, steering the Cardinals to a 6-3 win over the Philadelphia Phillies in Monday's clash between National League divisional leaders.

Garcia (3-1), a rookie left-hander, struck out six.

David Freese had three RBIs, including a bases-loaded double after Nick Stavinotha delivered a pinch-hit homer leading off the seventh against Joe Blanton (0-1).

Jayson Werth hit a solo shot for the Phillies and has reached base in all 25 games this season. The Cardinals had

with four RBIs and three doubles for Boston, and J. D. Drew had four hits and drove in three runs.

Maicer Izturis hit a two-run double for Los Angeles.

### Yankees 4, Orioles 1

At New York, CC Sabathia pitched eight strong innings and Randy Winn hit a three-run homer to lead New York past Baltimore.

Sabathia (4-1) allowed one run — Matt Wieters' second-inning homer — and six hits while improving to 11-1 in 16 career starts against Baltimore.

Alex Rodriguez singled and scored during a four-run fourth in his return to the lineup after a day off, but catcher Jorge Posada left after five innings with right calf tightness. The extent of the injury was unclear, but the

Yankees announced he was to undergo an MRI on Monday night.

### Twins 10, Tigers 4

At Minneapolis, Wilson Ramos had three more hits in Joe Mauer's place and Michael Cuddyer added a three-run homer as Minnesota snapped Detroit's five-game winning streak.

Ramos had two doubles and an RBI and Scott Baker (3-2) allowed three runs and seven hits with six strikeouts in seven innings for the Twins. Detroit starter Max Scherzer (1-2) gave up 10 runs and eight hits with four walks in 4 1-3 innings.

Austin Jackson had three hits to raise his average to .377, but the Twins were up 7-0 after two innings against Scherzer, who has given up 18 hits and 16 runs in his last two starts against Minnesota.

Mauer missed his third straight game with a bruised left heel. Ramos was called up to play against Cleveland on Sunday and became the first catcher in modern baseball history (since 1900) to collect four hits in his major league debut, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

### White Sox 5, Royals 1

At Chicago, Jake Peavy pitched seven-plus shutout innings in his most impressive start of the season and Alex Rios had three hits and two RBIs for Chicago.

Peavy (1-2) struck out a season-high nine and gave up four hits. He didn't allow a hit until Mitch Maier singled with two outs in the fifth.

**In other AL games it was, N.Y. Yankees 4, Baltimore 1; Toronto 5, Cleveland 1; Boston 17, L.A. Angels 8; Minnesota 10, Detroit 4; Chicago White Sox 5, Kansas City 1; and Texas 4, Oakland 2.**

14 hits — 10 against Blanton. In San Diego, Ubaldo Jimenez struck out a career-high 13, became the first six-game winner in the majors this season and hit an RBI single to lead Colorado over San Diego. Jimenez (6-0) held San Diego to one run in seven innings. He was making his third start since throwing the first no-hitter in franchise history. He retired the last nine batters he faced, striking out five of the final six. His ERA is 0.87.

San Diego starter Kevin Correia (4-2) had his four-game winning streak snapped. He allowed three runs in six-plus innings.

**In other NL games it was, St. Louis 6, Philadelphia 3; Cincinnati 3, N.Y. Mets 2, 11 innings; Arizona 9, Houston 1; and Colorado 5, San Diego 2.**



*Upon certification by US and Aruban experts earlier this week*

# Aruba Ports crane back in operation

ORANJESTAD – The Aruba Port Authority Crane has been certified and is now in function again. This puts an end to weeks of irritation and delays in the unloading of containers with goods for the island. Islandcommercewassubjected to wait longer to have their merchandise on shelves, when port workers decided the crane was too dangerous to use. This created shortages in particularly fresh food supply and angry business people demanded immediate action by the Aruba Port Authority to repair, replace or add another crane to speed up the work.

After weeks of deliberation and control, the APA announced this week experts were able to fix the some 30 year-old crane. A inspector from the Consolidated Crane Inspection of the USA as well as executives from the Department of Technical Inspection checked whether the crane is ready to be on line and upon that issued the a temporary certification. The experts said they were satisfied with the work conducted to repair the crane. They also issued the green light to start using the crane on Monday. In the coming three months, APA

will work with the experts to finalize the control for a permanent certification, which have duration of a year.

The process will now include work on the crane rails, which have been more tightly secured. The ports terrain has been adapted to provide the 120 meter space necessary to operate the crane safely. Part of the rails closer to the shore line will have to be replaced and this will happen in the next 90 days. There are in total six matters that have to be resolved within the timeframe, pending the final inspection.

APA Director Alfonso

*If housing foundation continues to refuse to meet government demands*

## Financial institutions ready to recall backing from FCCA

ORANJESTAD – If the government goes ahead and creates a new organization to provide affordable homes for the community, it may seriously affect the current foundation, FCCA.

FCCA has been established by the government decades ago to help provide affordable housing for particularly people with low income.

The government always provided the necessary lease land and facilities to execute projects. However, right before the new government assumed administrative power in November, the FCCA board with the approval of the departing Minister of Infrastructure made a change in the by-laws of FCCA, practically shutting the government out of the decision making process. The new by-laws permit only a minor presence of the government in the board, and so far have rejected all requests of the current Minister of Infrastructure Benny Sevinger to have a closer look into the financial and management of FCCA.

The Minister expressed to the FCCA that he will not tolerate this policy, which in fact, cuts the government out of the control of its own

foundation and that he has all the groundwork ready to start a new one. This new foundation will take over the task of building affordable homes on behalf of the government.

This announcement created waves in the financial world in Aruba. If the government indeed decides to pull the rug from underneath FCCA, many other investors may also pull out, leaving FCCA and its board with major financial problems. The foundation gets most of its financial backing because of the endorsement of the government, and without it, the FCCA may not be able to get preferential rates on loans. Moreover, FCCA will be at the peril that many financial institutions may deem the operation too risky and that they may recall their own backing.

Experts here say they do not believe the FCCA board will allow the situation to get that far, and that the members will rethink their strategy, even submit their resignation soon in order to guarantee the continuation of the housing foundation. Any other decision will mean its collapse, which will have drastic consequences for current projects, the upkeep of homes still operated by FCCA and also the loss of job for some 90 employees.□



Boekhoudt also clarified that the business community will not be charged with the crane fee while this was not in use. The Aruba Trade and Industry Association threatened with a court case, as members perceived they were being charged the fee even though they did not get the service. Boekhoudt in the

meantime issued a notification to companies that the crane is back in action, inspected and certified. He emphasized the next phase will be decided by experts, to guarantee safety and continuity.

As for the 90 days, he said to be confident the remaining work can be completed in the set time.□





*National Junior Honor and National Honor Society*

# ISA Students inducted into Honor Society



ORANJESTAD - Six students from the International School of Aruba (ISA) were inducted into National Junior Honor Society and National Honor

Society in a special ceremony held at the school some time back. These students were selected by a Faculty Council for meeting high standards

for scholarship, service, leadership and character.

Students selected for NJHS were Aditya Gupta, Ekta Alwani and Mihir Melwani



and students selected for NHS were Aby Smith, Ariel Lagares and Gabriela Garcia.

These Honor Societies rank as the oldest and most prestigious organizations for Middle and High School students both in US and internationally. National Honor Society members are chosen based on above 4 criteria and then they are expected to continue with

their exemplary contributions to the School and community by requiring them a certain minimum number of service hours to the community every year.

Congratulations to the new members and their parents. The photos show the satisfied students and some happy parents at the time of induction. □



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# Tropi-Cas Where Dream Homes Come Alive



EAGLE - Tropi-Cas proudly put up its new sign this week at its convenient location on Schotlandstraat. Popular Interior Decorator Mary Perez, and her sister Esther Erasmus Perez are responsible for the outstanding selection of quality furniture lines, available in their beautifully merchandised store. Mary reports she started decorating condominiums for visitors at Tierra del Sol and Gold Coast, and before long realized that the local market could also benefit from a well-stocked furniture and home décor show room. True to her vision, Tropi-Cas now features Klaussner home furnishings. The line is a leader in that industry with multiple stores

in the USA and internationally. Klaussner gives shoppers a wide variety of choices, including the ability to customize contemporary living rooms, dining rooms and bedrooms. For a casual, island look, Tropi-Cas carries Designer Wicker & Rattan by Tribor, a quality source for unique indoor wicker, rattan, and wood furniture, also outdoor wicker, porch wicker and garden rattan including accessories. Tribor boasts a great number of beautiful collections, allowing shoppers to mix and match pieces easily and tastefully. Another popular line, Sitcom Universal Furniture can also be found at Tropi-Cas showing versatile furniture including lamps and area rugs.



And for the young generation, Tropi-Cas stocks Lea Youth Specialists furniture, which is safe and affordable for

children of all ages, helping create the bedroom of your child's dream. Mary & Esther are always

available for advice on style or color, at Tropi-Cas, just drop in for a visit with ample parking, and easy access. □





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## Celebrating Queen's Day at Paseo Herencia



**NOORD** - On Friday April 30th, Paseo Herencia Shopping & Entertainment Center celebrated the Queen's Day. The day started with a cultural dance show performed by Kids & Youth in Action. "Robert Maduro y su Alma Folklorico" a well known

Aruban Musician was the musical entertainment for the evening and both locals and tourists enjoyed the music. Paseo Herencia Shopping & Entertainment Center presented the Barracudas Synchronized Swim Team, Aruba's synchronize champion

who performed a wonderful show.

Queen's Day is known for its free market and for that day Paseo Herencia Shopping & Entertainment Center had a shopping bazaar around the plaza selling cakes, sweets and arts. Also for the celebration of the Queen's Day there was free sampling of orange Balashi which is a famous local beer. Families enjoyed the shows and the evening ended with the famous Waltzing Water show of Paseo Herencia Shopping & Entertainment Center.

Paseo Herencia would like to remind everyone about their Mother's Day Raffle Campaign. With every purchase of \$20 or more at any store or restaurant at Paseo Herencia, you will receive a raffle ticket to participate in the raffle campaign to win fabulous prizes. For a special gift, stores at Paseo Herencia offer a wide variety of gifts and for those that cannot choose Paseo Herencia gift certificates are available at the parking cashier. The campaign already started and will end on May 9th. The winners will



be announced on May 11th in the newspapers and radio.

Restaurants are open daily for breakfast, lunch and Dinner. Stores at Paseo Herencia

Shopping & Entertainment Center are open Monday – Saturday from 10AM – 10PM and on Sunday from 5PM – 10PM. □





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## Louis Vuitton Monogram Nightbird Pochette

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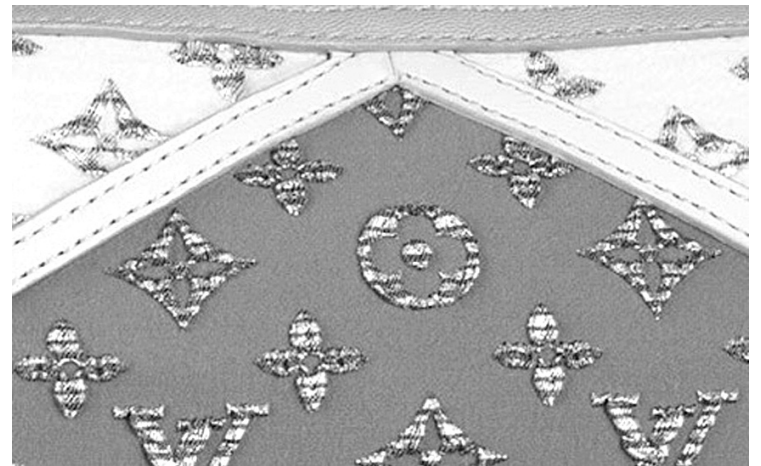


crafted from a combination of extravagant materials such as python skin, goat leather, calfskin and multi-colored jacquard textile which reveals the iconic Monogram pattern. Other features include a precious satin lining, an interior phone pocket, a decorative calfskin tassel and a quirky telephone cord as part of the strap.

The Monogram Nightbird Pochette measures 7.1" x 10.6" x 1.2" and comes in two colors, Black and Purple. It's available at Louis Vuitton store at Renaissance Mall for a nice and special Mother's Day gift. □

Oranjestad - Louis Vuitton Monogram Nightbird Pochette features the geometric-ethnic print appearing on the Louis Vuitton 2010 Spring Ready-to-wear collection. Mixing the vibrant color, sumptuous materials and glamorous details, this Louis Vuitton Purse is definitely a fabulous accessory for someone who wants to take part in the evening party with style. And it fits to be carried as a rectangular pochette or a ball-shape clutch.

Nightbird Pochette is skillfully



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HUMAN HINTS

# Surrender Your Ego to Find Love

Love can be thought of as our ego surrendering to complete Unification with what we perceive as separate from our selves. Since our ego creates the illusion of separation, complete Unification requires the complete and total surrender of ego. When ego completely surrenders, the illusion of separation disappears, and we realize that we are one with all things. We are all share the same fundamental frequency.

Love is ever present, hidden behind Ego's veil. In death, the Ego dies with the body, so there is a natural transition into Love and Unity Consciousness. This is how we've shed the ego in the past, but Humans are evolving. We are transforming from three dimensional creatures, into creatures who naturally express themselves in the fourth dimension of Love and Unity, through a three-dimensional human body.

The fourth dimension of When we act from Love, the ego will automatically

dissolve, leaving only Unity. When this happens, we will become aware of living in fourth dimensional Unity while still in a three dimensional body. In the fourth dimension, the body can survive without the ego. In Unity Consciousness, there is nothing to fear because there is no separation. Acting from the energy of Unity, we will have complete control over the hologram of separation.

This is the process that Humanity is going through. This is what it means to shift from the third dimension to the fourth. It is not mass death of the physical body, it is naturally surrendering the ego while we're still in a physical body.

This is why it is important to begin to recognize your ego when it acts on you. When you realize the times you're being influenced by the energies of separation, you will be able to disarm ego's blind reactions, and replace them with the energy of the fourth dimension.

This is happening now because Universal Energies are aligning at this time. The alignments and transformations will

culminate and build until the grand moment when the Universal Frequencies reach exact alignment, and the Mass Consciousness of Humanity realizes that it is one with everything, and effortlessly sheds its ego.

With all the mystery surrounding 2012, this begs the question of what will happen in that grand moment when everything comes together in the most rare, unique and meaningful set of synchronicities Humanity has ever experienced? The answer is a resounding, ...probably nothing of significance.

After that moment, people will transform into the energy of Unity very quickly and effortlessly, as ego falls from the Mass Consciousness. We will all very quickly come to realize that we are all one, and to hurt another is to hurt ourselves.

The new Universal Overtones will support our transformation, which will instantly feel completely natural, as if we have been there all along. We will remember our three dimensional past, and we will be amazed by the way

we once acted. We will be infinitely compassionate and understanding toward our past, while we delve into our new unlimited expression.


Until Tomorrow...

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**~Quentin Danziger**  
Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines, and has also studied many avenues of alternative thought. HumanHints is the culmination of his knowledge, experience and practice. These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you choose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.

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	daily:			
	matinee:	12:00	2:45	late show: 11:15
<input type="checkbox"/> R	<b>NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET</b>			<b>NEW</b>
	daily:	4:30	6:45	9:00
	matinee:	2:15	late show:	11:45
<b>PG-13</b>	<b>THE LOSERS</b>			<b>NEW</b>
	daily:	5:45	8:00	
	matinee:	12:45	3:15	late show: 11:00
<b>PG-13</b>	<b>DEATH AT A FUNERAL</b>			
	daily:	4:45	7:00	9:15
	matinee:	12:15	2:30	late show: 11:30
<b>PG-13</b>	<b>CLASH OF THE TITANS</b>			
	daily:	6:15	8:45	
	matinee:	1:00	3:30	late show: 11:30
<b>PG</b>	<b>ALICE IN WONDERLAND</b>			
	daily:	4:00	6:30	
	matinee:	1:15	late show:	
<b>PG</b>	<b>THE LAST SONG</b>			
	daily:		9:00	
	matinee:		late show:	11:45
<b>PG</b>	<b>FURRY VENGEANCE</b>	5:45	8:00	<b>NEW</b>
	daily:			
	matinee:	1:15	3:30	late show: 10:15 12:30
<b>PG-13</b>	<b>IRON MAN 2</b>			<b>NEW</b>
	daily:	5:30	8:30	
	matinee:	12:00	2:45	late show: 11:15
<b>PG</b>	<b>HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON</b>			
	daily:	4:15	6:30	8:45
	matinee:	1:45	late show:	11:00
<b>PG-13</b>	<b>THE BACK-UP PLAN</b>			
	daily:	4:30	7:00	9:15
	matinee:	2:00	late show:	11:45
<b>PG</b>	<b>DIARY OF A WIMPY KID</b>			
	daily:			
	matinee:	12:30	2:45	late show:
<b>R</b>	<b>COP OUT</b>			
	daily:	6:15	9:00	
	matinee:	1:00	3:45	late show: 11:30
<b>PG-13</b>	<b>DATE NIGHT</b>			
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'BEST MAGIC SHOW, I've seen in ages...and I hate Magic! - Carol

Butz, Belair, Maryland. 'MagicLive!...is Hip-Comedy Entertainment, Adam is the ultimate Modern Magician' -Jacque Polak, CBS-TV. Steinfeld sophisticated card-sharp street magic, mixed with grand theater illusions is a visual feast...this will be the highlight of your vacation. -Al Blanchard, mystery novelist, Boston, MA.

Steinfeld's, comedy magician, likable on-stage personality, comic interactive-wit, and amazing magic, mixed with his dream-like theatre-of-illusions, is a sensory overload of the imagination, along



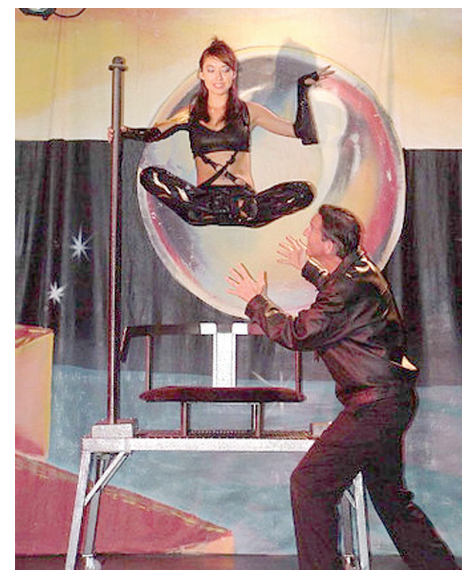
with his lovely dancers...a treat for the entire family.

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**ShowTime:** 9:00 pm, nightly, (7 days a week) theater opens at 8:30pm  
**TICKETS AVAILABLE:** AT THEATER OF ILLUSIONS box office located in Westin lobby starting at 7:30pm nightly up until showtime, or at front desk at anytime  
**Price:** \$19.95 under 15, \$34.95 adults



# PWC Participates in the 50th International 10K Boulevard Loop

## ORANJESTAD

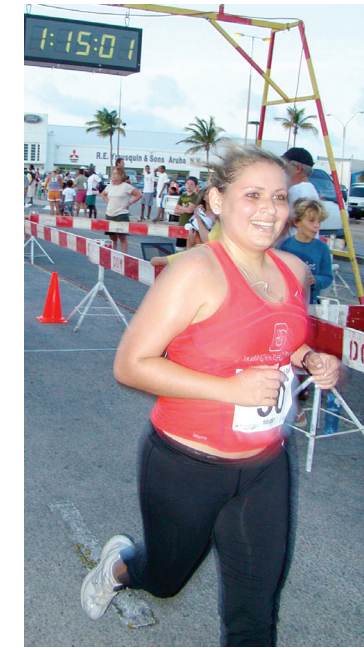
PricewaterhouseCoopers employees participated in the 50<sup>th</sup> International 10K Boulevard Loop, posting very impressive individual times.

The race started at 5:30 p.m. on Queen's Birthday, April 30th, 2010, on L.G. Smith Boulevard and terminated at the Aruba Ports Authority

headquarters at the entrance to Oranjestad.

Organized by ARRUWAC, a local runner's association, the

race offered medals to all participants once they crossed the finish line. The PwC crew showed total integration of Mind, Body and Spirit as they accomplished their goal, to match their competitive and competent office performance, in sneakers and workout clothes running on the boulevard. □



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**RENAISSANCE-** Leona Altenburg & Jeremy Kaneb tied the knot in Aruba. The lovebirds met through work and dated for three years. Jeremy knew he met his match for a lifetime of love and planned a weekend last fall at Whistler ski resort. While they were hiking on Whistler Mountain, as they

approached Harmony Ridge, Jeremy proposed his love to Leona to be his wife. The wedding planning started right away; they searched for a place that was exotic and new to them, off the beaten path for typical North American vacations. Aruba attracted them because Leona's family is Dutch and they knew that



*From Canada to Aruba*

# Leona & Jeremy vow eternal love



would be an interesting spin for an island destination. On April 13, 2010 Leona walked up her aisle with parents at her side. Jeremy was happy this moment finally came and they glazed into each others eyes as they vowed their love.

The beach blessing was held at the gorgeous Renaissance Island. The ceremony was delivered by Geoffrey Banfield and witnessed by 35 loved ones. Immediately following, Bella Aruba Photography captured



every special moment for the newlyweds with a spectacular backdrop at sunset. The newlyweds were announced as they walked toward the gorgeous setup along the island with loved ones hugging and congratulating the couple. First dance, cake cutting and parent dances all were part of the joyous occasion. A few speeches were delivered and dinner was served under the Aruba starlit sky. "Our wedding was absolutely gorgeous; A fairytale wedding that exceeded all of ours and our guests expectations! Renaissance Island provides

a setting unlike any other. We had such a spectacular time in Aruba and would like to thank all of our family and friends who were there with us, both on the island and in spirit, for an unforgettable celebration. We'd also like to thank, yet again, all of the staff at the Renaissance who made the wedding so beautiful. From the boat drivers to the DJ to the wedding coordinator, Juney Jones who orchestrated our wedding to perfection... they really know how to throw a party and do it up so right", stated the newlyweds. □

*Photos by Angela Munzenhofer*





By: Dr Carlos Viana

Our bodies were made to move. Ever notice how children respond to music and are always moving? Teens and young adults gravitate to dance and sports events for socializing. Many group and family "Get Togethers" involve some kind of sports or dancing.

Besides drinking clean water and eating well every day, physical activity is necessary for a healthy body. Phyllis and I are lucky enough to live in Aruba where we swim in the warm Caribbean Sea twice a week. When we put on our snorkeling gear or go scuba diving, we enjoy nature's exotic aquarium and get a stronger workout.

Moving in water is a great way for pregnant women or people with sore muscles or back pain to get moving. Moving in water, you get not only a low impact aerobic session, but the weight of the water creates a resistance when we walk, play or swim through it. My partner, Phyllis, who has been a dancer most of her life, finds stretching easy and relaxing in the water. I prefer the sea to pool water, because it is natural. The detoxifying and curative effects of salt water have been described and sought after since before biblical times.

As a clinical nutritionist, I'm always talking about the importance of good nutrition, but exercise is equally important for good health. Countless studies have shown that individuals who exercise regularly have reduced stress and lowered risk of developing

## Dancing through life

degenerative diseases like diabetes, cancer, osteoporosis and heart disease.

Exercise is good for the mind too. One study showed that exercising by taking dance classes at least twice a week made people less likely to develop dementia. Exercise should not stop when we grow older either. Another study showed that people with Alzheimer's disease remembered forgotten memories when they danced to music they used to know.

According to the latest joint American Heart Association/American College of Sports Medicine guidelines on physical activity, all healthy adults ages 18-65 should be getting at least 30 minutes of moderate intensity activity five days of the week. If you prefer intense activity, a minimum of 20 minutes 3 days a week is recommended. If you have a tight schedule or are not yet in shape to stay active for 30 minutes, you can break up your workout into 10 minute sections or start slowly and build up.

In addition to aerobic exercise where you want to move enough to get your heart to start beating faster than normal, resistance training at least twice a week keeps your muscles and bones strong. You don't have to join a gym to get a resistance workout. You can buy small hand weights to use at home or even lift books or kitchen items. Working around your house or in your garden where you lift, push and move items

is a way to multitask your resistance training.

To keep from getting stiff, gently stretch muscles slowly at least twice a week for a minimum of 10 minutes. Stretching is great to wind down after a workout when muscles are warm. Flexibility increases range of motion in joints, making daily chores easier. This is especially important as we age and to avoid injuries.

The more exercise you get the better. Statistics are showing as kids are becoming less active, childhood health is going down. Pull the plug on the TV and computer and watch the kids get going. Encourage participation in sports and active family outings. Remember the toddler that doesn't stop until they drop? They are doing what comes naturally. Walking is probably the easiest to do, but choose an activity you enjoy and can do often. Involve family and friends or get into a class to give you support.

Besides, watersports, working in our house and in my orchid garden, for our other workout, Phyllis and I take salsa classes twice a week. Scheduling a class into your agenda helps today's busy people keep their commitment to exercise. This way, we never miss a class and our dance lessons are good for the mind, body and spirit. We know our body is working because we can feel the physical effects. We are also less stressed and sleep better. But, remember the study on

Dementia? Dance classes also improve the mind because they require remembering steps and sequences, so we're protecting our future mental health.

We have always been an active family, so we listen to our bodies cries for exercise and know how to support it with food, water, supplements and rest. However, if you have a health condition, are overweight, over 65 or have been inactive for a long time, its best to get a health evaluation and begin your exercise program under professional supervision.

For example, if you are into extreme sports or as we age, muscles need extra time to recover from exercise. Make sure you are drinking sufficient water and eating healthy for your metabolic type. Using a supplement called D-Ribose taken in juice can help you wake up the next day without the stiffness and sore muscles associated with overdoing it. B complex and other vitamins can give you more energy and endurance to make it through your workout. Whether your goal is to build up muscle or loose fat, you can do this safely and naturally by getting a sports nutrition plan from a certified clinical nutritionist.

Get the Point! Exercise needs to be part of daily life. Dancing is just one enjoyable way for people of all ages to get into and stay in shape. Sharing your experience as in partner dancing, increases variety and doubles the fun. This is good for the spirit! Want to stay healthy in mind-body-spirit?



If you have questions about how to begin exercising, exercise and weight loss, muscle building or if you are healthy enough to start exercise, come see us. We provide individual evaluations and personal health plans that get you moving. Meanwhile, see you on the dance floor.

CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is Salsa student, an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in China; a US Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), an Addiction Professional (C.Ad.), Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist specializing in Age Management, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. For information: VIANA HEALING CENTER, Kibaima 7 -TEL: 585-1270 Web Site: [www.vianaheal.com](http://www.vianaheal.com)

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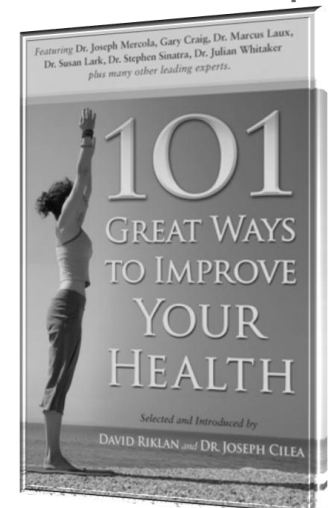
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# Are Republicans Stepping on a Land Mine?

**Mona Charen**

Creators Syndicate – Imagine yourself inside Democratic National Committee headquarters, in the department of long-term planning. Huddling in the no longer smoke-filled room, stocked no doubt with eco-friendly coffee cups and whole-wheat snacks, the savants are pleased with themselves. In the great game of buying constituencies for more government, they believe that the gargantuan health care law is the greatest coup in history. Not only did it create millions more mendicants, but with the new legislation weighing in at 2,000 pages, endless new work for two other favored groups — lawyers and bureaucrats. Brilliant!

Pushed to the back of their minds are disquieting facts such as these: The health reform law remains deeply unpopular, with 55 percent (Rasmussen) saying they would like to see it repealed. The Congress that pushed it to passage has approval ratings of 23 percent (Gallup). President Obama's approval ratings (Bill Clinton's confident pre-vote predictions to the contrary

notwithstanding) have not rebounded since passage.

Never mind, the Democrats reason, by hanging Wall Street around Republicans' necks and by reviving the immigration controversy (with a great deal of help from the state of Arizona), Democrats will win out. Maybe not in 2010, as off-year electorates tend to skew older and whiter, but certainly by 2012, when President Obama stands for re-election.

The financial reform bill has yet to fully play out. But by stoking controversy over immigration, the Democrats are making a shrewd move. If Hispanics vote in 2010 as they did in 2008, it would be virtually impossible for a Republican to win.

John McCain won 55 percent of the white vote in 2008. Bravo for him. Even with 95 percent of African-Americans voting for Obama, McCain would have taken the oath of office had it not been for the lop-sided Hispanic vote that went for Obama by 67 percent. While it is true that estimates of the total Hispanic vote percentage have often been

overblown (the total Hispanic vote in 2008 was 8 percent, not the 15 percent widely cited), the vote can be crucial in some key states. In California, Hispanics comprised 16 percent of the vote in 2008. In Florida, it was 14 percent, and in Colorado 13 percent.

According to the Pew Hispanic Center, 74 percent of California Hispanics voted for Obama, along with 61 percent of Hispanic Coloradans, and 57 percent of Hispanic Floridians.

While it may be possible for Republicans to peel away some of the 43 percent of white voters who pulled the lever for Obama in 2008, this seems a dubious strategy. Though no Democrat since 1964 has won a majority of the white vote, an irreducible core of white voters does stick with Democrats. Obama's percentage of the white vote was two points above John Kerry's, and one point below Bill Clinton's re-elect percentage. The 41 to 44 percent of whites (to take the last four elections) who vote Democrat are almost certainly left/liberals. Hispanics are not ideologically committed. Not yet. George W. Bush received a respectable 40 percent of the Hispanic vote in 2004. As Clint Bolick outlined in the Hoover Digest, a 2006 survey by Latino Coalition found that 34.2 percent of Hispanic voters considered themselves conservative, while only 25.8 called themselves liberals. More than 53 percent agreed

that it was more important for Hispanics to become integrated into American society than to preserve their native cultures. Offered a choice between higher taxes and more government spending or lower taxes and less government spending, 61.2 percent favored the latter. Moreover, like other Americans, Hispanics tend to vote more Republican as they age. Hispanic voters do feel very differently from many conservatives about immigration. Pew found that 53 percent of Hispanics worried about deportation in 2007, including 32 percent of the native born, and also that 55 percent opposed verification of citizenship before obtaining driver's licenses.

Republicans who favor strong measures to limit illegal immigration should not sacrifice their principles to truckle for votes.

But neither should they blindly blunder into a political wilderness for lack of finesse. Republicans must take care to couch their opposition to illegal immigration in the overall context of welcoming legal immigrants and appreciating the contribution of immigrants overall. Recruiting Hispanic candidates ought to be a high priority. The Democrats are losing ground with all segments of the American electorate except African-Americans. Republicans must tread carefully to avoid alienating the important Hispanic vote. □



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### DIVI VILLAGE

STU	WK 16	ROOM 6201	O.V.	\$ 3.500
1BR	WK 15/17	PLATINUM	P.V.	\$ 10.000
1BR	FLOATING WEEK 18/50 - BUILDING F			\$ 9.000

### DIVI PHOENIX

1BR	WK 16	ROOM 1205	O.V.	\$ 10.000
STU	WK 18	ROOM 803	O.V.	\$ 7.000
STU	WK 21	ROOM 804	O.V.	\$ 6.000

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1BR	WK 19	ROOM 422	P.O.	\$ 10.000
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**For more info: 731-2012**

**E-mail: [johnnypaesch@yahoo.com](mailto:johnnypaesch@yahoo.com)**

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ORANJESTAD

SAN NICOLAAS

Dr. Linden v/d

## Botica na warda

Oranjestad:

Botica Noord

San Nicolaas:



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No. di Polis	581-1100
Oranjestad	582-4000
Noord	587-0009
Sta. Cruz	585-4710
Savaneta	584-7000
San Nicolas	584-5000

## Emergency Numbers



Emergencia	911
Polis	100
Brandweer	115
Brandweer II	582-1108
Tipline di Polis	11141
Hospital	587-4300

## Oranjestad

Ambulance	582-1234
Warda Polis	582-4000
BGD Oranjestad	582-8877

## San Nicolas

Ambulance	584-5050
Warda Polis	584-5000
BGD San Nicolas	584-1606
Valero Security	584-1720

## Services

Elmar	583-3000
Informacion	118
Kadaster	582-1311
Serlimar	584-6456
Setar	582-5151
Taxi	582-2116
Web	585-4600
Voogdijraad	582-1262
Taxi- Tas	587-5900
Bureau Sosteniemi	588-1010
Profesional Taxi	588-0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587-2300

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WK 17	1BDRM	\$7,000.	LANAI
WK 18	STD	\$5,000.	4TH FL/O
WK 18	1BDRM	\$7,000.	3RD FL/O
WK 19	1BDRM	\$7,500.	7TH FL/O
WK 20	STD	\$4,500.	4TH FL/O
WK 20	1BDRM	\$7,500.	1ST FL/O
WK 21	STD	\$5,000.	2ND FL P/O
WK 21	1BDRM	\$7,000.	3RD FL P/O
WK 22	STD	\$4,000.	1ST FL G
WK 22	1BDRM	\$7,000.	3RD FL P/O
WK 23	STD	\$4,000.	2ND FL G
WK 23	1BDRM	\$5,500.	1 ST FL G
WK 24	STD	\$4,000.	1 & 2 FLS
WK 24	1BDRM	\$7,000.	1 FL POOL
WK 25	STD	\$4,000.	1 FL G

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# New device zaps airways to help asthmatics breathe

By LAURAN NEERGAARD,  
AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON — People with severe asthma are getting a radically different treatment option: A way to snake a wire inside their lungs and melt off some of the tissue that squeezes their airways shut. Bronchial thermoplasty isn't for everyone, just a subset who wheeze despite today's best medications. It's neither a cure nor without risk.

But the Alair system, rolling out this month, offers the first method of physically altering spasm-prone airways.

"It does seem to improve your ability to live with your asthma," says Dr. Michael Silver of Chicago's Rush University Medical Center, who isn't involved with Alair's manufacturer but has monitored its development. "I certainly have moved from skeptical to, it has a niche." "It's a very novel, very innovative treatment" — but only for the right patient, agrees Dr. William Calhoun of the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, a spokesman for the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology.

About 22 million Americans have asthma, and medications offer good control for many patients. Still, asthma kills about 4,000 people a year and hospitalizes at least half a million. Up to 15 percent of patients have severe disease, experiencing frequent attacks despite daily medication — and too often needing emergency-room care to end the gasping.

"It's like slow suffocation," says John Rapp, 59, of Arlington, Va., who wound up in the ER four or five times a year before participating in a study of bronchial thermoplasty.

California-based Asthmatx Inc. estimates its Alair system, which the Food and Drug Administration approved last week, could target up to 2 million adults like Rapp.

Asthma is a two-pronged disease. First, inflammation inside the lung's branch-like airways narrows those channels to make breathing difficult. The airways also contain a layer of muscle tissue that spasms when something irritates the lungs. That so-called smooth muscle can double in thickness with repeated attacks, making airways increasingly twitchy.

Bronchial thermoplasty beams radiofrequency waves to heat up and shrink that muscle layer so that airways can't constrict as badly during an asthma attack.

In a half-hour outpatient procedure, doctors thread a flexible tube called a bronchoscope through the nose or throat and down into the airways. An electrode at the tip beams those RF waves through the airway wall to reach the muscle underneath without causing a burn.

A company-funded study tested 288 adults at 30 medical centers. About two-thirds

received bronchial thermoplasty. The rest got a sham treatment, a bronchoscope that reached into their airways but didn't fire — to be sure that if people felt better, it was due to the thermoplasty and not a placebo effect. Indeed, sham-treated patients reported feeling better. Both groups stayed on their daily medications.

It takes three treatments a few weeks apart to reach different parts of the lungs. But a year later, thermoplasty-treated patients reported better improvements in quality of life, fewer severe asthma attacks — 26 percent of thermoplasty patients had one compared with 40 percent of the sham patients — and, importantly, a major drop in ER visits.

The drawback: Thermoplasty irritates airways, meaning risks right after treatment that include temporarily worse asthma, a partially collapsed lung and coughing up blood. Some 8.4 percent of thermoplasty patients required hospitalization, mostly on the day of treatment, compared with 2 percent of the sham group.

"If you're willing to take that short-term risk, the long-term benefits are substantial in quality-of-life," concludes Dr. Mario Castro of Washington University in St. Louis, who led the study. "We've maximized everything we currently have available for these patients ... and they're still not controlled."

The big caution, says Rush's Silver: What are the long-term effects? RF is used safely in other health conditions, and animal studies and some patients tracked for several years don't suggest problems. But Silver asks if scarring might show up years later and how long thermoplasty's benefits last. The FDA is requiring Asthmatx to conduct a five-year study to find out.

Thermoplasty isn't for patients currently experiencing worsening asthma or who have an infection or a bleeding disorder, FDA warns.

And candidates must have realistic expectations, adds Texas' Calhoun. Thermoplasty doesn't reach smaller airways, or treat asthma's inflammatory side.

Typical bronchoscopes range from \$2,000 to \$4,000, he says, and it's not how much an Alair-aided one will cost. Asthmatx says the disposable catheter for each procedure costs \$1,500; doctors also will need the wire-heating machine, which costs about \$30,000, similar to other radiofrequency generators.

Back in Virginia, Rapp hasn't made an ER visit in the three years since his thermoplasty, and says the shortness of breath he experienced from a partially collapsed lung after one trial treatment cleared up quickly.

"I can run around like a wild idiot, have fun with the dog, with my daughter," he says. "I'm always going to have asthma symptoms but this greatly reduces them." □

## Study: Growth hormone can aid athletic performance

By STEPHANIE NANO,  
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK — Researchers are reporting the first scientific evidence that a hormone banned in sports can boost athletic performance.

The improvement from human growth hormone was modest, and only in sprinting. It didn't increase strength or fitness. Athletes likely to benefit are those in sprint events like running or swimming that require a burst of energy, and where a split second can decide the winner, the Australian researchers said.

Human growth hormone, or HGH, is one of many substances banned by the Olympics and other sports even though there hasn't been any good proof that it can enhance performance. Previous studies in athletes have been small and brief.

The new research tested it in about 100 recreational athletes for two months.

"This is the first demonstration that growth hormone improves performance and justifies its ban in sport," said Dr. Ken Ho, who led the study at the Garvan Institute of Medical Research in Sydney.

Human growth hormone is made by the pituitary gland and promotes growth of bone and other tissue. A manufactured version is available, but its use is restricted to certain conditions in children and adults, including short stature, growth hormone deficiency and wasting from AIDS.

Growth hormone has been used by athletes in the belief that it builds muscle and improves performance. It's also harder to detect than other substances because it doesn't show up in urine tests. There's been a blood test for growth hormone since 2004, but it hasn't been used much outside competition.

In February, a British rugby player became the first athlete to be suspended for using growth hormone after he was tested. A few baseball players have admitted using growth hormone, including former home run king Mark McGwire who recently apologized for using it during his career.

The latest research involved 103 male and female recreational athletes between 18 and 40. For two months, they got injections of either growth hormone or salt water. Some of the men also got testosterone, which is also banned in sports and often used with growth hormone.

They lifted weights, jumped and rode exercise bikes to test their physical performance. Growth hormone didn't improve strength, power or endurance, the researchers said. The only improvement was for sprinting on a bicycle, a 4 percent increase in sprint capacity compared to those who didn't get the hormone. In men who also got testosterone shots, there was an 8 percent increase.

The researchers speculated that the boost from growth hormone alone is enough to shave off about half a second in a 10-second sprint over 100 meters. That little time "divides the winner from the last place finisher," said Ho.

The study volunteers who took growth hormone lost body fat and gained lean body mass, but it was mostly from water retention, not from bulking up muscle, the researchers reported in Tuesday's issue of the *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

Side effects included swelling and joint pain.

The researchers noted some limitations. They couldn't test the hormone in elite athletes for ethical reasons, and they used a smaller dose for a shorter time than reported for illegal use. Larger doses and longer use might have more impact and more serious side effects, they said.

"It's not a trivial thing to do a study like this. I think they did a very good job," said Dr. Andrew Hoffman of Stanford University, who was involved in a 2008 review of growth hormone research.

The director general of the World Anti-Doping Agency, which helped pay for the study, said the results aren't surprising to him and will disprove skeptics who don't think the hormone helps □



# Argentino Kirchner nombrado jefe de bloque Unasur

RIO LUJAN, Argentina (Reuters) - El ex mandatario argentino Néstor Kirchner fue nombrado el martes en una cumbre presidencial como el primer jefe del bloque de naciones sudamericanas Unasur, poniendo fin a un conflicto diplomático por su postulación al cargo.

La designación de Kirchner, actualmente diputado y con gran influencia en el Gobierno de su esposa, la presidenta Cristina Fernández, venía siendo trabada por Uruguay por un diferendo con Argentina, pero finalmente el jefe de Estado uruguayo, José Mujica, la respaldó.

El trabajo del ex jefe de Estado argentino está previsto que sirva para fortalecer a un bloque desgastado por conflictos y diferencias ideológicas, pero analistas temen que el nombramiento sea apenas un trampolín para que Kirchner mejore su imagen para la elección presidencial de Argentina en 2011.

Los presidentes sudamericanos se reunieron

en un exclusivo resort de golf 60 kilómetros al norte de Buenos Aires y también trataron la continuidad de la ayuda regional a Haití y la asistencia a Chile tras los terremotos que sacudieron este año a esos dos países. Sólo Cristina Fernández se abstuvo en la votación que consagró a Kirchner secretario general de Unasur.

“La designación del compañero Kirchner como secretario general (es) la consolidación de una etapa más de fortalecimiento de Unasur, eso es lo que significa”, dijo el presidente de Brasil, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, cuya diplomacia lanzó años atrás la idea de crear una comunidad sudamericana. “Kirchner tiene experiencia, conoce el continente, conoce las dificultades políticas, ideológicas que nosotros tenemos en el continente (...)”

Por lo tanto, yo creo que él está 100 por 100 apto para ser un extraordinario secretario general de la Unasur”, agregó Lula. □



Imagen de archivo del ex presidente argentino Néstor Kirchner, en una reunión luego de una operación, en La Plata. Feb 24 2010. REUTERS/Imagen 233/Handout



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